

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully submits the above amendments and the following remarks for entry in the present application.

TITLE

The title of the present continuation application has been amended to coincide with the title as approved and entered in the parent case.

SPECIFICATION

The present continuation application is substantially a copy of the substitute specification filed in parent Application No. 09/743,495, including correction of any typographical errors as submitted, approved and entered in the parent case. No new matter is added.

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

The amendment to the specification made here is to add the required section identifying the prior application upon which benefit is claimed in the present continuation application under 35 USC §120, and related co-pending application.

PENDING CLAIMS

Original Claims 1-20 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new appropriate claims have been added in order to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, such changes are unrelated to any prior art or scope adjustment, and are simply refocused claims in which Applicant is presently

interested. At entry of this paper, Claims 21-38 are pending for examination in the present continuation application.

ABSTRACT

The Abstract of the Disclosure filed with the present continuation application is substantially identical to the Abstract approved and entered in parent Application No. 09/743,495.

PRIORITY

Applicant claims priority under 35 USC §119 of Japanese Patent Publication No. 10-195736 filed 10 January 2001, as claimed in parent Application No. 09/743,496 filed 10 January 2001. Applicant respectfully requests written acknowledgment of the completion of §119 priority claimed in the present application.

As required, the specification of the present continuation application has been amended to identify the prior application upon which benefit is claimed under 35 USC §120, and the related co-pending US application. Applicant respectfully requests written acknowledgment of the completion of §120 priority claimed in the present application.

ASSIGNMENT

HITACHI, LTD. is the Assignee of full right, title and interest in and to the present application by virtue of the Assignment filed and recorded 10 January 2001 at Reel 011544, Frames 0623 *et seq.* in prior Application No. 09/743,495.


INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Filed concurrently herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 listing all of the art cited to or by the Office in the prior application, to be made of record and printed on any patent issuing in the present application.

CONCLUSION

This Amendment is being submitted prior to mailing of a first Action on the merits, and no Petition or fee is required or possible for entry of this paper. Please charge any actual shortage in fees to ATS&K Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (as Case No. 503.39455CX1).

Respectfully submitted,



Paul J. Skwierawski
Registration No. 32,173
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP
1300 North Seventeenth Street, Suite 1800
Arlington, Virginia 22209-3801, USA
Telephone 703-312-6600
Facsimile 703-312-6666